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BREDBURY AND ROMILEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT

for the

Year Ended 31st DECEMBER 1944.

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(Acting) W. Lee, M.B.Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector - R. W. Musk, M.R.S.I.

Clerk and Junior Assistant to Sanitary Inspector - James Bailey,
(Serving with H. M. Forces)

C. Emmett,
(Appointed February 1941)

BREDBURY AND ROMILEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bredbury and Romiley Urban District Council.

July 1945.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following Interim Report for the year 1944.

STATISTICS.

Area of District in Acres	4,753
Estimated Population end of 1944	15,910
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1944. ...	5,560
Number of Empty Houses	Nil
Number of Houses entered in Rate Book during 1944	Nil
Rateable Value	£98,015
Product of a Penny Rate.	£405

Vital Statistics.

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	150	148	298
Illegitimate	7	2	9
	157	150	307

Birth Rate per thousand estimated population. - 19

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	6	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	5	6	11

Total Live and Still Births -	Male	Female	Total
	162	156	318

Rate per thousand Live and Still Births - 318

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
All Causes	102	78	180

Death Rate per thousand estimated Population - 11.25

Death of Infants under One year of Age	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	10	9	19
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total Infantile Deaths	11	10	21

Diarrhoea under Two Years	Male	Female	Total
	1	-	1

Death Rate - All Infants per thousand Live Births - 71.7

Death Rate - Legitimate Infants per thousand Legitimate Live Births - 63.75

Death Rate - Illegitimate Infants per thousand Illegitimate Live Births 222

Deaths from Cancer, all Ages -	Male	Female	Total
	12	16	28

Causes of Death.	Male	Female
Cerebro. Spinal Fever	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	1
Diphtheria	1	-
Tuberculosis of Resp. System	3	-
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	1
Influenza	1	1
Cancer of Bue: Cav: and Oesoph: (M) Uterus (F)	-	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2
Cancer of Breast	-	2
Cancer of other sites	7	9
Diabetes	-	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	10	8
Heart Disease	21	19
Other Dis. of Circulatory system	2	4
Bronchitis	12	6
Pneumonia	9	1
Other Resp. Diseases	1	1
Diarrhoea, under two years.	1	-
Other Dig've. Diseases	1	2
Nephritis	1	3
Premature Birth	3	4
Con: Mal; BirthInj: Infant: Disease.	2	3
Suicide	1	-
Road Traffic Accident	1	-
Other Violent Causes	2	-
All other Causes	15	6
All Causes	102	78

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis during the Year 1944.

Disease	Total Cases Male	Total Cases Female	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	18	16	19	-
Diphtheria	8	7	15	1
Whooping Cough	24	30	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	4	3	-	-
Measles	54	62	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	2	-	1
Erysipelas	1	3	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	1	-
Totals	111	123	35	3

Ages of Patients.

Disease	0-1 Year		1-3 Years		3 - 5 Years		5 - 10 Years		10-15 Years		15-50 Years		Over 50 Years	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	-	1	3	4	6	6	7	1	1	2	1	2	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	2	-	4	2	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	2	2	2	8	9	12	6	2	11	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2
Measles	2	2	13	16	21	15	18	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spl. Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	6	21	22	40	32	39	39	3	17	2	2	5	3

During January there was a slight outbreak of Diphtheria when three children in one house were removed to Hospital. All the children were in the same class st School, and others were examined to see if there was a carrier. About 100 children were examined and eleven were swabbed, all proved negative. There were no more cases during the month.

There was an outbreak of Measles which started during the month of December which spread all over the district, and lasted about five months. There was also a small outbreak of Whooping Cough during the months of May and June. Two of the Diphtheria cases were not confirmed in Hospital, and were discharged after being under observation for seven days. 64 Swabs were examined at Stockport Infirmary for Diphtheria bacilli during 1944, 4 of these proved to be positive, and the rest were negative.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Ten cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, two being transfers in from other districts, and eight of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, one of these was a transfer in.

Four ~~detahs~~ deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Three left the County, eleven recovered, and one joined the Navy.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1-5 years	-	-	3	1	1	-	1	-
5-15 "	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
15-25 "	1	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
25-35 "	1	2	-	1	1	1	-	-
35-45 "	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45-55 "	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	5	4	4	3	1	2	-
1938	9	4	1	9	-	3	1	2
1943	9	2	1	5	4	2	-	-

The number of T.B. cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year was :-

	Male	Females	Total
Pulmonary	30	15	45
Non-Pulmonary	32	29	61
Total	62	44	106

50 Specimens of Sputum were submitted for examination during the year to the County Laboratory and of these 9 were positive, 41 negative.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The work outlined in the Report for previous years was continued in 1944, and every effort was made to encourage children up to 15 years of age to be immunised, and many took advantage thereof, as shewn by the following figures :-

Number of Cases of Diphtheria in Children under 15 years	-	12

Two of these cases were not confirmed in Hospital.

Number of children who completed the full course of Immunisation between January and December 31st.

	1944	1943	1942	1941	Total
Under 5 years	173	176	356	243	948
5 - 15 Years	135	209	192	834	1370
	308	385	548	1077	2318

Estimated number of children in district at 31.12.44.

Under 5 years - 1314
5 - 15 years - 2410

Percentage of children Immunised at 31.12.44.

Under 5 years - 68%
5 - 15 years - 73%

The Staffs of the Child Welfare Centres have been very helpful. Publicity has been given to the Council Scheme on every possible occasion.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Bredbury - Every Tuesday held at George Lane Congregational School. The year 1944 has been a year of good attendances, but not quite as good as the previous year.

The attendances were as follows :-

Bredbury Welfare Centre.

1058 Consultations held with Doctor,
146 New Babies registered,
63 Average weekly attendances,
3179 Total attendances.

Romiley Welfare Centre.

Every Thursday held at Romiley Welfare Centre, Central Drive, Romiley.

33 Average Weekly Att endances,
1693 Total Attendances.

Compstall Welfare Centre.

There is no Welfare Centre in Compstall, but Mothers take their children to the Welfare Centre held in the Jubilee Methodist School, Rose Brow, Ludworth.

MILK SUPPLY.

Samples of Milk have been regularly taken by the Sanitary Inspector for the following tests :-

(a) Sediment,
(b) Fat Content.

The Sanitary Inspector also takes Samples for Tuberculosis. 100 Samples of Milk were analysed at the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, for T.B., and of these 93 were negative and 7 positive. 2 Cows were destroyed by order of the County Veterinary Surgeons.

During the year 350 visits of inspection have been made to registered premises. The total number of Purveyors of Milk in the area is 47 and in addition there are 4 Purveyors of Accredited Milk who are licensed by the County Council. As the zoning scheme is still in operation, only two Purveyors of Milk come into the district, and these are licensed under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936 and 1938.

Some Farmers in the district are making application to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk in the near future.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS.

The British Restaurant was opened at Romiley (formerly St. Chad's Sunday School, Guywood Lane) on the 7th March 1942, and has met the need for a Restaurant where a hot meal can be provided at a reasonable cost.

The year 1943 saw the opening of a second British Restaurant in September, and is accommodated in a building at the rear of the George Lane Congregational Sunday School, Bredbury. The venture exceeded all expectations in numbers at the beginning, but later on the number of meals served began to decline, also the cash and carry part of the Restaurant had fewer customers, till at last it became impossible to carry on, and it was closed down on 4th May 1945.

WEATHER REPORT.

Mr. F. Edwards, of Greave, Romiley, who is the local representative of the British Rainfall Association, has for the past 12 years (ending 31st December 1944) supplied details of the months figures for Rainfall in Romiley. He also has supplied monthly comments on the weather for the past nine years, and these have been published in the Medical Officer's Report up to 1938, when the last printed report was issued.

Mr. E. Hayes (Manager of the Bredbury Sewage Works) has recorded Rainfall figures at the Bredbury Sewage Works since he has been appointed. The previous Sewage Works Manager, (Mr. E. H. Arrowsmith) recorded the Rainfall figures since July 1939, and has supplied monthly comments on the weather for the years ending 31st December 1942 and 1943. Mr. E. Hayes, the present Sewage Works Manager has continued to supply them. The following extracts from such records are of general interest :-

Romiley 1941	-	Total Rainfall	-	36.05
Bredbury 1941	-	" "	-	37.86
Romiley 1942	-	" "	-	35.11
Bredbury 1942	-	" "	-	37.62
Romiley 1943	-	" "	-	36.90
Bredbury 1943	-	" "	-	36.15
Romiley 1944	-	" "		43.27
Bredbury 1944	-	" "		40.98

The records are very well compiled with a wealth of detail, and it is interesting to compare the statistics for Bredbury and Romiley both monthly and yearly.

The data cannot be published at the present time, but is being carefully preserved for future reference.

Thanks are due to the two Observers for the voluntary work they have undertaken.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

Name of School.	Accommodation	No. on Register.
Bredbury Council,	480	452
" St. Mark's.	294	227
Romiley Council	500	393
Woodley "	264	142
Compstall "	162	51
Bredbury Highfield Council Senior (Boys & Girls)	640	392

Bredbury Highfield Senior School - This School was opened in April 1941 in two separate departments for boys and girls, each under its own Head Teacher. The school serves the purpose of catering for all children of 11 plus of Bredbury, Romiley and Compstall, the other schools of the district catering for infants and juniors. At Highfield School, there are facilities for the teaching of Cookery, Laundry, Handicraft and Metalwork, although this latter subject is not at present included in the curriculum owing to war-time conditions. Each school has its own Central Hall with stage and its own gymnasium and showers. The whole of the school wash bowls are provided throughout the year with hot and cold water. Gardening instruction has been developed both for boys and girls. Under the new Education Act this school will become increasingly important in the development of educational facilities provided for in the Act and at present the school is used in the evenings for Evening Class instruction for certain subjects. Each department has its own Canteen where meals are cooked in a specially equipped kitchen and are served in each Central Hall. The extensive grounds will be turned into playing fields when the embargo on expenditure under this head has been lifted by the Government Department and the air-raid shelters now provided in these grounds will be removed. The scholars attending this school from the Compstall district are provided with free conveyance.

Feeding of Children - Every school in the district is provided with facilities for mid-day meals for scholars, these meals being provided as follows :-

1. Highfield School - prepared and cooked on premises.
2. Barrack Hill School, Bredbury C.E. School and Woodley Council School - All provided with cooked meals from Mottram Cooking Depot.
3. Compstall Council School - Scholars attend the Mission Hall Canteen on Compstall Road, these meals being cooked on the premises.
4. Romiley Council School - Meals supplied from the Romiley British Restaurant.

Nursery Class - One is provided for children under 5 years of age in the Barrack Hill School, and the Managers have recently caused enquiries to be made as to whether a similar class could be organised at Romiley Council School.

Future Development - At the December Meeting of the Administrative Sub-Committee recommendations were made that the Director of Education be asked to take the necessary steps to secure the following sites :-

(a) Site in Lower Bredbury for the erection of a Junior and Infants' School with Nursery Class accommodation.

(b) Site in Romiley of approximately 3½ acres for the erection thereon of a Junior and Infants' Schools with Nursery Class accommodation.

Education Act, 1944. - Raising of School Leaving Age to 15 - When this section of the Act becomes operative, the additional scholars to be catered for can be comfortably accommodated at the Highfield School where there is, at the moment, ample surplus accommodation.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER. - PIPED SUPPLY.

The Urban District Council are the Water Authority. The Stockport Corporation supply the district (in bulk) from three sources, - Kinder, Goyt Valley, and Lyme Park. Stockport Corporation collect Samples from three sources, the latter two supplying water to the service reservoir at Greave, Romiley, since June 1939.

PLUMBO-SOLVENCY OF WATER.

The following information is supplied at the request of the Ministry of Health, (Circ. 49/45) :-

Stockport Corporation Supplies.

(1) The Water Supply of the Area and of its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality, (b) in quantity.

(2)a. Bacteriological examinations were made monthly of the raw water and weekly of the treated water going into supply, the results being satisfactory.

b. Chemical analyses were made monthly of the raw and treated water going into supply, the results being satisfactory.

(3) The water is chemically treated to prevent plumbo-solvent action with satisfactory results.

(4) The water is filtered through mechanical filtration plant and after filtration is chlorinated.

(5) There are no supplies by means of Standpipes. All supplies are direct to houses.

There are a few wells in out-lying parts of the district.

Manchester Corporation.
Supply from Haughton Green.

Untreated Longdendale water has some action on lead, and to neutralise this it is treated with hydrated lime to raise the ph. value to around 8.0 and the alkalinity to around 1.00 to 1.20 parts of CACO per 100,000.

As a result of this treatment, analyses of water taken from the distribution system after contact with the lead service pipes for nine hours normally reveal a lead content of about 0.15 part per million.

Analyst's Report on Water :-

Stockport - Goyt Valley (Low Pressure) Tap on main outlet Filtered and Chlorinated.

Kinder - Tap in Venturi Meter Chamber, filtered and chlorinated.

Results satisfactory, both Chemical and Bacteriological.

Manchester - Longdendale Supply.
Report - The water is being continuously neutralised with hydrated lime, and sterilised with chloramine, which latter accounts for the major portion of the free and saline ammonia content of the water.

Seasonal variations mainly affect the colour and organic matter content as measures by the oxygen absorbed test. The other results are satisfactory. The bacteriological results are excellent.

Samples were taken by the Council's Sanitary Inspector after the receipt of the Ministry's Circular, for Plumbo solvency, with the following results :-

Greave Reservoir, Stockport Corporation.

The lead content of the water is nil. The action on lead should not exceed 2 parts per million, and should preferably be less. This sample is within these limits.

Haughton Green Supply, Manchester Corporation.

The active lead content of the water is nil. As regards the action on lead, this should not exceed 2 parts per million, and should preferably be less. This sample is within these limits.

WATER SUPPLIES - From Wells, Springs, etc.

Attention has been given to the purity of water from these sources.

The Sanitary Inspector has taken samples from all these sources and the steps necessary to effect improvements.

Those properties which are in close proximity to the public supply should be connected at the earliest possible opportunity, particularly as regards farms and farm premises. A pure water supply is more than ever necessary to essential cleanliness in the production of milk, and of the utensils used for distribution of milk.

OPEN SPACES.

Ward	Existing Public Open Space.	Land owned by the Council and reserved as proposed public open space.	Other land previously reserved as proposed public open space.	Proposed public open space in the form of parkways along main roads.
Bredbury	31.41	65.79	241.21	40.33
Romiley	5.96	35.95	48.94	3.20
Compstall	2.04	-	-	-
TOTALS	39.41	101.74	290.15	43.53

The amount of existing public open space in the district in the form of parks, recreation grounds etc., is approximately 40 acres, whilst further areas amounting to over 100 acres are at present owned by the Council, and are reserved in the Planning Scheme as proposed public open spaces. This means that Bredbury and Romiley will have more than 8 acres of public open space per 1,000 population in the very near future, and so exceeds the minimum figure of 7 acres per 1,000 quoted by many planning authorities.

In addition to this, provision is made in the Planning Scheme for the reservation of a further 330 acres of open space, principally for the preservation of a green belt along the valleys of the Rivers Tame and Goyt, and in the provision of parkway/reservations along major traffic roads.

WAR-TIME NURSERY.

The Nursery at Highfield Park Estate, Bredbury, was opened to children on the 13th December 1943, after many difficulties had been experienced with regard to labour and material etc.

The primary object of the Nursery is to keep children safe and well whilst their mothers are at work on Munitions and other work of National importance. Parents are expected to pay not less then 1/-d per day per child.

There has been an average daily attendance of about 22 children to the end of December 1944.

The Nursery is within easy reach of the various works in Bredbury, and it is hoped that mothers will continue to take every advantage of this service which is provided for them. The Official Opening took place on 18th February 1944. The building is of the pre-fabricated bungalow type, and has accommodation for 50 children approximately. 15 from 1 year to 2 years, and 35 from 2 years to 5 years.

There is a Nursery Room for babies with cots. "Tweenies" Room for babies 2-3 years. Larger room for babies 3-5 years.

Staff quarters, - Matron's Room, Staff Dining Room, Isolation Room, Milk Rooms, Pantry and Kitchen, 2 Baths and Toilet, also a Laundry.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. LEE,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.